## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

FERREIRA tal.

Serial No. (To be assigned)

Atty. Ref.: **3673-3** Group:

National Phase of PCT/BR99/00096

Filed: July 19, 2000

Examiner:

For: MONITORING PATIENT COMPLIANCE AND BIOAVAILABILITY OF DRUGS BY DEPOTEINIZING BODY FLUIDS

July 19, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231 Sir:

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified

application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

### IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 4, line 1, delete "to 3",

Claim 9, line 1, change "claims 1, 3, 5 and 7" to --claim 1--,

Claim 14, line 1, change "claims 11 and 13" to --claim 11--.

# **REMARKS**

The above amendments are made to place the claims in a more traditional

format.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE R.C B١

Michelle N. Lester Reg. No. 32,331

#### MNL:ms

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

09/600594 ec'd PCT/PTO 19 JUL 2000